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Lit Sch.

# LIBRARY SCHOOL NOTES

PUBLISHED BY THE

LIBRARY SCHOOL OF THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY

VOLUME 7

MAY, 1920

NUMBER 3

## ALUMNI DINNER

The annual meeting and dinner of the Alumni Association of the Library School of the New York Public Library will be held at the Park Avenue Hotel Thursday evening, June 10th, at 6:30 o'clock. We have been fortunate in securing a rate of \$2.50 per cover for the dinner, a rate lower than that obtainable at this time at any other first-class hotel.

A large attendance is desired, both of graduates and undergraduates, as important matters in connection with the future work of the school and a possible reorganization plan for the Alumni Association will be discussed. Please make reservations with Miss Johanna Olschewsky, 2678 Valentine Avenue, New York City, not later than Saturday, June 5th.

FORREST B. SPAULDING  
President of Alumni Association

## COMMENCEMENT

The commencement exercises will take place at 11 a. m. on Friday, June 11th, in Room 213 of the Central Building. Professor Azariah S. Root, librarian of Oberlin College Library, who while on leave from Oberlin held the principalship of the School for one year following Miss Plummer's death, will give the address.

## ADVANCED COURSES

The advanced courses for 1920-21 will be offered on much the same plan as in 1919-20, with the addition of new lectures and

lecturers. Alumni are asked to make it clear to enquirers that the requirements of these courses have been in no degree lessened, and that their concentration in the three-month period has made possible an amount of outside study which assures the thorough and scholarly nature of the work. For example, students are expected not only to attend class meetings and to supplement this by readings, problems, quizzes, and examinations, but to be prepared for problems of a practical kind. In 1919-20 these included devising and conducting a programme for a round table, mapping out an outline of lectures on vertical filing, framing an examination for use in connection with a graded library service, and the choice of a collection of children's books for the use of English and American children in a foreign country. Moreover, the preparation of a thesis or a bibliography may be elected, as may also less extensive studies, such as one on great European reference collections made in the year just closing. The Faculty has so shaped the courses that they add materially to the equipment of the person who has had one year of library school study. Practical work enters in to the extent that the award of the diploma in June is conditioned upon satisfactory staff reports for the periods from September to December, inclusive, and in April and May. Abundant testimony on the part of former senior students indicates that there is a place for this work, and that it is worth while professionally. The School is eager to hear from former one-year students who contemplate returning, as well as from persons who hold certificates from other library schools, and it will be ready soon to furnish details about the plans for the coming year. Two-year students who may wish to register for courses which they were unable to take in their own senior days will also be welcome.

#### RECRUITS NEEDED

The library profession needs workers and the Library School needs students. Those who are in charge of library staffs are having difficulty in keeping them filled. Opportunities in new library enterprises and in the business world are diverting both those who are already in the profession and those who might en-



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ter it. It is of the utmost importance that every librarian endeavor to interest young people in library work. It is equally essential that every library school graduate try to turn such young people toward proper training. Entrance examinations to the Library School will be held on Saturday, June 12th, and probably again late in August. Alumni are urged to do their best in recruiting new workers.

### EXCHANGE OF LECTURES

A year ago the Pratt Institute School of Library Science invited our own School to hear Mr. Edward F. Stevens' series of lectures on the history of libraries. It has been our pleasure this year to reciprocate by asking the students from Pratt Institute to come to New York for our lectures on library buildings. The invitation from Pratt moreover has been repeated, so that for this year we have a most happy interchange of lectures, which not only tends to economy and effectiveness, but gives the students and faculties of the two schools abundant opportunity to meet and become acquainted.

### OPEN COURSES

The open courses offered in 1919-20 proved highly popular. The total registration was 266, the actual number of persons enrolled being 152. This count does not include the *Book Selection* evenings, of which no record was kept; these evenings were opened to all concerned, and the attendance varied from 75 to over 200. In view of the desire on the part of librarians in the field for this opportunity, the open courses will be repeated in the coming year. Alumni are asked to publish this fact to librarians generally, and to make clear the distinction between the open courses and the advanced courses. The open courses are designed as series of lectures for library workers who have had very considerable experience in the field and who are qualified, therefore, to profit by listening to discussions of library methods and problems which are somewhat beyond those ordinarily included in the first year curriculum of any library school. These involve

no outside study and no examinations, and are recognized by no credentials or recommendations on the part of the School. In some cases the open and advanced course groups meet together, but there is always the clear distinction between the two as indicated above.

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